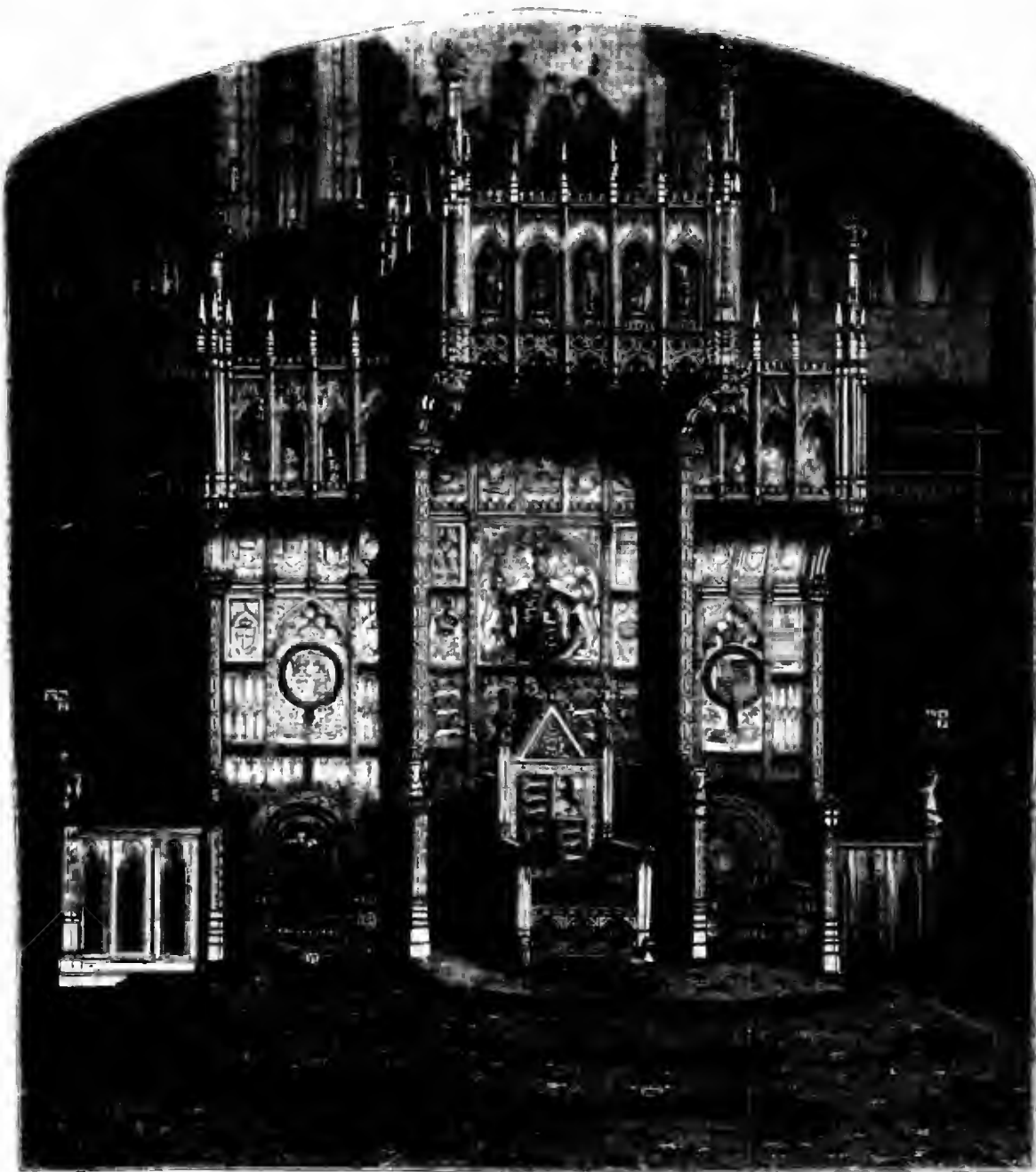


THE THRONE IN THE NEW HOUSE OF LORDS.



the ground.—An extension of the plans for the Hull Borough Lunatic Asylum has been determined on, so as to accommodate 70 instead of 50 lunatics, and the competing architects have been ordered to alter their designs accordingly.—We understand that the Yorkshire Architectural Society have made the offer of 40*l.* towards erecting a handsome stained-glass window at the east end of St. Paul's Church, Hull, on condition that another 40*l.* is raised for the same purpose by the inhabitants of Hull and its vicinity.—The opening of the Hartlepool west harbour and docks, an important event for the port, is to take place on 1st June; and a total freedom from dues is to be enjoyed by all vessels that clear out in the first twelve days of the month. The first vessel that entered the docks at Birkenhead—the *Oregon*, as already noticed—is to be clear of dues at these docks 'for life.'

THE NEW HOUSE OF LORDS.
THE THRONE.

We have already described in general terms the magnificent carved throne set up in the House of Lords, and the chairs of state for the Sovereign, the Prince of Wales, and the Prince Albert.* We now lay before our readers an engraved representation of these, promising that, notwithstanding its excellence and accuracy, it conveys but a feeble idea of their elaborate character and beauty. As we have already said, we should have been better pleased with rather less gilding about the throne: nevertheless, it is the finest thing of the sort in Europe, and cannot be too highly praised.

We also give an enlarged representation of one of the two brass candelabra at the throne-end of the house, the position of which is shown in our general view of the interior.† It

is about 13 feet high, and, like the gates, is the work of Mr. Hardman.

The distinguishing feature of all the metal-works here is, that they are on the old principle, being in a great number of pieces, and the whole built together so as to get plenty of undercutting, which produces a lightness not ordinarily seen in modern metal-work. The whole of the surfaces, also, are most carefully worked over, and brought as much as possible to a polish, by which the light is reflected in every direction. In most modern work, on the contrary, the usual endeavour has been to cast the work in as large pieces as practicable, and to have the pattern prepared so that as little work as possible would be required to it afterwards.‡

* On Monday the public were admitted to view the House of Lords without ticket, and will continue to be admitted on appeal days, which are Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, from eleven to four. The admissions on Saturdays will still be by ticket, to be obtained at the Lord Chamberlain's office on Wednesdays only.

* See p. 153 and p. 178 ante.

† See p. 183, ante.